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1742

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Alexander I. Kalina §

SERIAL NO.: 09/780,489 §

FILED: February 9, 2001 §

ART UNIT NO.: 1742

EXAMINER: LE, H.V.

DOCKET NO.: 99019/02UTL

TITLE: Method of Preventing or Stopping §  
Sulfuric Corrosion of Metals §8/c  
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Robert W. Strozier	P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1540	October 7, 2003
		Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO THE ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement. Applicant believes that because the invention relates to reducing or preventing sulfidation of metal surfaces via the deactivation of active sulfidation sites on the metal with a reagent having a higher affinity for the metal surface than a sulfidizing agent, all three groups share a common and critical element - the deactivation of metal sites by a composition having a greater affinity of the metal surface than sulfur. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of the election/restriction requirement.

Alternatively, if the Examiner sustains the election/restriction requirement, Applicant elects claims 1-2, 5-13 (method format) and 14-20 for further prosecution in this case, expressly reserving the right to file divisional application on the un-elected subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 7, 2003Robert W. Strozier, Reg. No. 34,024  
Attorney for Applicants